Thursday, 20th August 2026

M Oriental

NEWSLETTER

GLOBAL MARKETS

Local Markets:

Kenyan shilling is expected to hold steady against the US dollar. The shilling's stability is attributed to support by robust diaspora remittances, healthy foreign exchange reserves and managed import demand.

Today's expected USD/KES trading range is 129.10/129.75

Indicative FX rates as at 8.30am:

Currency	*Buying*	*Selling*	*Currency*	*Today*	*Previous*
USD/KES	129.10	129.75			
GBP/KES	175.00	176.70	**GBP/USD**	1.3635	1.3523
EUR/KES	150.50	151.80	**EUR/USD**	1.1710	1.1584
INR/KES		1.3720	**USD/INR**	95.00	94.95
			AUD/USD	0.7148	0.7097
			Commodities		
			Gold	4481.05	4403.20
			Brent Crude	91.93	88.96

Benchmark Rates:

Tenor	*Current*	*Previous*	
91 Days	8.7734%	8.7882%	
182 Days	8.9500%	8.9545%	
364 Days	9.0365%	9.0169%	
KES INFLATION	6.68%	5.59%	
KES CBR	8.75%	8.75%	
FED RATE	3.75%	3.75%	
ECB RATE	2.25%	2.00%	
BOE RATE	3.75%	3.75%	
RBI RATE	5.25%	5.25%	

Top News

Oil: Oil prices climbed on Thursday on concerns the impasse in the U.S.-Israeli war against Iran will continue to disrupt supply from the key Middle Eastern producing region and tighten global supplies.

Asia-Pacific markets: Asian stocks rose on Thursday as a U.S. Treasury move to increase long-dated bond buybacks eased pressure in global bond markets, while a renewed rally in semiconductor shares pushed South Korea's KOSPI and Japan's Nikkei sharply higher.

International Markets

USD: The U.S. dollar on Wednesday slumped and hit a more than three-month low, as Treasury yields slid after Washington stepped in to provide relief to bond markets. Meanwhile, the Federal Reserve's latest minutes showed many policymakers seeing rate hikes likely if inflation did not decline.

GBP: The GBP/USD pair trades in positive territory around 1.3610 during the early European trading hours on Thursday. The US Dollar weakens against the British Pound (GBP) on fading Federal Reserve (Fed) rate hike expectations and Treasury bond buybacks. The US Initial Jobless claims report is due later Thursday.

EUR: The EUR/USD pair enters a bullish consolidation phase after touching its highest level since late May during the Asian session on Thursday. Bulls now await a move beyond the 1.1700 mark before placing fresh bets and positioning for an extension of an over a three-week-old uptrend.

INR: The Indian rupee was largely unchanged on Thursday and closed at 95.44, versus its previous close of 95.33, as dollar sales by the RBI kept the local unit in a tight range. Dollar demand from maturing forwards and debt-related outflows added pressure, which was countered by dollar sales from banks.

Source: Reuters.

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